States/UTs	1996-97 (MTs)	1997-98 (MTs)	1998-99 (MTs)
Meghalaya	19682	20245	20847
Mizoram	7649	7868	8102
Nagaland	13414	13797	14207
Orissa	227701	239501	316597
Pondicherry	15162	15329	15342
Punjab	332224	337118	342376
Rajasthan	345753	361736	440060
Sikkim	7711	7794	7885
Tamil Nadu	682026	698837	716830
Tripura	30577	31451	32386
Uttar Pradesh	1128847	1178862	1391123
West Bengal	763609	785065	808013
Total:	9389194	9659193	10490199

Exploration of oil and natural gas in onshore of Bay of Bengal

3631. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken on the exploration of oil and natural gas on the river basins and onshore of Bay of Bengal;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard during last three years;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of the results of exploration in Mahanadi and Godavari basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) During the years 1997-2000 Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) carried out exploratory activities in various river basins of India, viz. Bengal basin, Cauvery basin, Krishna-Godavari basin, Assam Shelf, Ganga basin and Narmada basin; exploration inputs being expanded in southern part of Cambay basin especially in Bharuch & Narmada blocks of Ankleshwar Asset; as detailed below:—

Seismic survey			Exploratory
2D—Ground Line Kilometre	3D—Ground Line Kilometre	3D D Sq. Km.	wells drilled
6701.82	29377	500	221

As a result of these efforts about 61 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of Initial Oil Equivalent Inplace (IOEIP) was accreted in 1997-99.

As far as private/Joint Venture (JV) operations are concerned, contracts were signed for two exploration blocks, namely, KG-ON/1 and KG-OS/6 with private companies during last three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000) in river basin and onshore basins adjoining Bay of Bengal. Also, Government offered a total of 27 blocks under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in the river basins and onshore basis adjoining Bay of Bengal of which contracts have been signed recently for 14 blocks.

(d) Exploration activities in Krishna-Godavari basin were started by ONGC in mid sixties. As a result of these efforts about 188 MMT of IOEIP (as on 1.4.99) has been established. Further, as far as private/JV sector is concerned, a gas discovery has been made in Ravva contract area. Exploration work in two earlier signed blocks in K-G basin is in progress. Recently contracts for nine blocks under NELP have been signed for carrying out exploration in this area.

So far as Mahanadi basin is concerned, in the years 1973-75, the erstwhile Oil and Natural Gas Commission had carried out seismic surveys in the areas. During the period 1978-90, OIL carried out extensive surveys in the Mahanadi offshore and onshore areas and in North-East Coast (NEC) offshore area. A total of fifteen exploratory wells had been drilled in these areas. However, no commercial hydrocarbons discovery was made. Recently contract for five offshore blocks under NELP have been signed for carrying out further exploration in Mahanadi and NEC areas.

Conversion of Petrol/Diesel driven vehicles into LPG

3632. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that conversion of diesel driven vehicles, without prior approval has led to unsafe driving and pollution in the country;

(b) what norms have now been laid down by Government for the conversion of petrol driven vehicles to diesel fuelled;

(c) whether Government have also allowed conversion of petrol driven vehicles to LPG fueled without seeking any prior approval by the owners of such vehicles.